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- Trifles themselves are *elegant* in him. *Pope.*
 There may'st thou find some *elegant* retreat. *London.*
 2. Nice; not coarse; not gross.
 Polite with candour, *elegant* with ease. *Pope.*
ELEGANTLY. *adv.* [from *elegant*.]
 1. In such a manner as to please without elevation.
 2. Neatly; nicely; with minute beauty.
 Whoever would write *elegantly*, must have regard to the different turn and juncture of every period: there must be proper distances and pauses. *Pope's Odyssey, Notes.*
ELEGY. *adj.* [*elegiacus*, Latin.]
 1. Used in elegies.
 2. Pertaining to elegies.
 3. Mournful; sorrowful.
 Let *elegiac* lay the woe relate,
 Soft as the breath of distant flutes. *Gay's Trivia.*
ELEGY. *n. f.* [*elegus*, Latin.]
 1. A mournful song.
 He hangs odes upon hawthorns, and *elegies* upon brambles,
 all forsooth deifying the name of Rosalind. *Shak. As you like it.*
 2. A funeral song.
 So on meanders banks, when death is nigh,
 The mournful swan sings her own *elegy*. *Dryden.*
ELEMENT. *n. f.* [*elementum*, Latin.]
 1. The first or constituent principle of any thing.
 If nature should intermit her course, those principal and mother *elements* of the world, whereof all things in this lower world are made, should lose the qualities which now they have. *Hooker, b. i. f. 3.*
 A man may rationally retain doubts concerning the number of those ingredients of bodies, which some call *elements*, and others principles. *Boyle's Phys. Consider.*
 Simple substances are either spirits, which have no manner of composition, or the first principles of bodies, usually called *elements*, of which other bodies are compounded. *Watts.*
 2. The four *elements*, usually so called, are earth, fire, air, water, of which our world is composed.
 The king is but a man: the violet smells to him as it doth to me; and the *element* shews to him as it doth to me. *Shaksp.*
 My dearest sister, fare thee well;
 The *elements* be kind to thee, and make
 Thy spirits all of comfort. *Shaksp. Anth. and Cleopatra.*
 The kings,
 Contending with the fretful *elements*,
 Bids the wind blow the earth into the sea,
 Or swell the curled waters. *Shaksp. Lear.*
 The heavens and the earth will pass away, and the *elements* melt with fervent heat. *Peter.*
 Here be four of you were able to make a good world;
 for you are as differing as the four *elements*. *Bacon's Hist. War.*
 He from his flaming ship his children sent,
 To perish in a milder *element*. *Waller.*
 3. The proper habitation or sphere of any thing: as water of fish.
 We are simple men; we do not know the works by charms,
 by spells, and such dabbry as is beyond our *element*. *Shaksp.*
 Our torments, in length of time,
 Became our *elements*. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. ii. l. 275.*
 They shew that they are out of their *element*, and that logic is none of their talent. *Baker's Reflections on Learning.*
 4. An ingredient; a constituent part.
 Who set the body and the limbs
 Of this great sport together, as you guess?
 —One sure that promises no *element*
 In such a business. *Shaksp. Henry VIII.*
 5. The letters of any language.
 6. The lowest or first rudiments of literature or science.
 With religion it fareth as with other sciences; the first delivery of the *elements* thereof must, for like consideration, be framed according to the weak and slender capacity of young beginners. *Hooker, b. v. f. 18.*
 Every parish should keep a petty schoolmaster, which should bring up children in the first *elements* of letters. *Spenser on Ireland.*
 We, when we were children, were in bondage under the *elements* of the world. *Gal. iv. 3.*
 There is nothing more pernicious to a youth, in the *elements* of painting, than an ignorant master. *Dryden's Dufresne.*
TO ELEMENT. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
 1. To compound of elements.
 Whether any one such body be met with, in those said to be *elemented* bodies, I now question. *Boyle's Scept. Chym.*
 2. To constitute; to make as a first principle.
 Dull sublimary lover's love,
 Whose soul is sense, cannot admit
 Of absence, 'cause it doth remove
 The thing which *elemented* it. *Donne.*
ELEMENTAL. *adj.* [from *element*.]
 1. Produced by some of the four elements.
 If dusky spots are vary'd on his brow,
 And streak'd with red, a troubl'd colour shew;

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- That sullen mixture shall at once declare
 Winds, rain and storms, and *elemental* war. *Dryden's Virg.*
 Soft yielding minds to water glide away,
 And sip, with nymphs, their *elemental* tea. *Pope.*
 2. Arising from first principles.
 Leeches are by some accounted poison not properly, that is, by temperamental contrariety, occult form, or so much as *elemental* repugnancy; but inwardly taken, they fasten upon the veins, and occasion an effusion of blood. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*
ELEMENTARITY. *n. f.* [from *elementary*.] Containing the rudiments or first principles; simplicity of nature; absence of composition; being uncompounded.
 A very large class of creatures in the earth, far above the condition of *elementarity*. *Brown's Vulg. Errours, b. ii. c. 1.*
ELEMENTARY. *adj.* [from *elementary*.] Uncompounded; having only one principle or constituent part.
 All rain water contains in it a copious sediment of terrestrial matter, and is not a simple *elementary* water. *Ray on the Creat.*
 The *elementary* salts of animals are not the same as they appear by distillation. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
ELEMI. *n. f.*
 This drug is improperly called gum *elemi*, being a resin. The genuine *elemi* is brought from Ethiopia in flatfish masses, or in cylinders, of a yellowish colour. Its smell is acrid and refinous. It is very rare in Europe, and supposed to be produced by a tree of the olive kind. The spurious or American *elemi*, almost the only kind known, is of a whitish colour, with a greater or less tinge of a greenish or yellowish. It is of an agreeable smell, and of an acrid and bitterish taste. It proceeds from a tall tree, which the Brasilians wound at night, and in the morning collect the resin that has run out. *Hill's Materia Medica.*
ELENCH. *n. f.* [*elenchus*, Latin.] An argument; a sophism.
 The first delusion Satan put upon Eve, and his whole temptation might be the same *elench* continued, as when he said, Ye shall not die; that was, in his equivocation, you shall not incur present death. *Brown's Vulg. Errours, b. i. c. 4.*
 Discover the fallacies of our common adversary, that old sophist, who puts the most abusive *elenchs* on us. *De. of Piety.*
ELEPH. *n. f.* Some name the apples in request in the cyder countries so; not known by that name in several parts of England. *Motimer's Art of Husbandry.*
ELEPHANT. *n. f.* [*elephas*, Latin.] The largest of all quadrupeds, of whose sagacity, faithfulness, prudence, and even understanding, many surprising relations are given. This animal is not carnivorous, but feeds on hay, herbs, and all sorts of pulse; and it is said to be extremely long lived. It is naturally very gentle; but when enraged, no creature is more terrible. He is supplied with a trunk, or long hollow cartilage, like a large trumpet, which hangs between his teeth, and serves him for hands: by one blow with his trunk he will kill a camel or a horse, and will raise a prodigious weight with it. His teeth are the ivory so well known in Europe, some of which have been seen as large as a man's thigh, and a fathom in length. Wild elephants are taken with the help of a female ready for the male: she is confined to a narrow place, round which pits are dug; and these being covered with a little earth scattered over hurdles, the male elephants easily fall into the snare. In copulation the female receives the male lying upon her back; and such is his pudicity, that he never covers the female so long as any one appears in sight. *Calm.*
 He loves to hear,
 That unicorns may be betray'd with trees,
 And bears with glassies, elephants with holes. *Sh. Jul. Caf.*
 The elephant hath joints, but not for courtesy;
 His legs are for necessity, not flexure. *Sh. Troil. and Cressida.*
 2. Ivory; the teeth of elephants.
 High o'er the gate, in elephant and gold,
 The crowd shall Caesar's Indian war behold. *Dryden's Virg.*
ELEPHANTIASIS. *n. f.* [*elephantiasis*, Latin.] A species of leprosy, so called from covering the skin with incrustations like those on the hide of an elephant.
ELEPHANTINE. *adj.* [*elephantinus*, Latin.] Pertaining to the elephant.
TO ELEVATE. *v. a.* [*elevo*, Latin.]
 1. To raise up aloft.
 This subterranean heat or fire, which *elevates* the water out of the abyfs. *Woodward.*
 2. To exalt; to dignify.
 3. To raise the mind with great conceptions.
 Others apart sit on a hill retired,
 In thoughts more *elevate*, and reason'd high
 Of providence, foreknowledge, will and fate. *Milt. P. L.*
 In all that great extent, wherein the mind wanders, in those remote speculations it may seem to be *elevated* with, it flies not beyond sense or reflection. *Lake.*
 Now rising fortune *elevates* his mind,
 He shines unclouded, and adorns mankind. *Sevage.*
 4. To elate the mind with vicious pride. *5. To*

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5. To lessen by detraction. This sense, though legitimately deduced from the Latin, is not now in use.
 When the judgments of learned men are alleged against you, what do they but either *elevate* their credit, or oppose unto them the judgments of others as learned? *Hooker, b. ii.*
ELEVATE. *part. adj.* [from *elevated*.] Exalted; raised aloft.
 On each side an imperial city stood,
 With tow'rs and temples proudly *elevate*
 On seven small hills. *Milton's Paradise Regain'd, b. ii.*
ELEVATION. *n. f.* [*elevatio*, Latin.]
 1. The act of raising aloft.
 The disruption of the strata, the *elevation* of some, and depression of others, did not fall out by chance, but were directed by a discerning principle. *Woodward's Nat. History.*
 2. Exaltation; dignity.
 Angels, in their several degrees of *elevation* above us, may be endowed with more comprehensive faculties. *Locke.*
 3. Exaltation of the mind by noble conceptions.
 We are therefore to love him with all possible application and *elevation* of spirit, with all the heart, soul and mind. *Norris.*
 4. Attention to objects above us.
 All which different *elevations* of spirit unto God, are contained in the name of prayer. *Hooker, b. v. f. 48.*
 5. The height of any heavenly body with respect to the horizon.
 Some latitudes have no canicular days, as those which have more than seventy three degrees of northern *elevation*, as Nova Zembla. *Brown's Vulg. Errours, b. iv. c. 12.*
ELEVATOR. *n. f.* [from *elevate*.] A raiser or lifter up, applied to some chyrurgical instruments put to such uses. *Quincy.*
ELEVEN. *adj.* [Saxen, Saxon.] Ten and one; one more than ten.
 Had I a dozen sons, each in my love alike, and none less dear than thine and my good Marcus, I had rather *eleven* die nobly for their country, than one voluptuously surfeit out of action. *Shaksp. Coriolanus.*
ELEVENTH. *adj.* [from *eleven*.] The next in order to the tenth.
 In the *eleventh* chapter he returns to speak of the building of Babel. *Raleigh's History of the World.*
ELF. *n. f.* plural *elves*. [*elf*, Welsh. *Easter's Gloss.*]
 1. A wandering spirit, supposed to be seen in wild unfrequented places.
 Through this house give glimmering light,
 By the dead and drowie fire;
 Every *elf*, and fairy sprite,
 Hop as light as bird from briar. *Shak. Midf. Night's Dream.*
 The king of *elvs* and little fairy queen
 Gambol'd on heaths, and danc'd on ev'ry green. *Dryden.*
 If e'er one vision touch'd thy infant thought,
 Of all the nurse and all the priest he taught;
 Of airy *elves* by moon-light shadow seen,
 The silver token, and the circled green. *Pope's R. of the L.*
 2. A devil.
 That we may angels seem, we paint them *elves*;
 And are but satires to set up ourselves. *Dryden's Elf, on Sat.*
 However it was civil, an angel or *elf*;
 For he ne'er could have fill'd it so well of himself. *Swift.*
TO ELFE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To entangle hair in so intricate a manner, that it is not to be unravelled. This the vulgar have supposed to be the work of fairies in the night; and all hair so matted together, hath had the name of *elflocks*. *Hanmer.*
 My face I'll grime with filth,
 Blanket my loins, *elf* all my hair in knots. *Shaksp. K. Lear.*
ELFLOCK. *n. f.* [*elf* and *lock*.] Knots of hair twisted by elves.
 This is that very Mab,
 That plats the manes of horses in the night,
 And cokes the *elflocks* in foul fluttish hairs,
 Which, once untangl'd, much misfortune bodes. *Shaksp.*
TO ELICITE. *v. a.* [*elicio*, Latin.] To strike out; to fetch out by labour or art.
 Although the same truths may be *elicited*, and explicated by the contemplation of animals, yet they are more clearly evidenced in the contemplation of man. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*
 He *elicits* those acts out of the meer lapid state of human nature. *Cheyne's Phil. Princ.*
ELICIT. *adj.* [*elicitus*, Latin.] Brought into act; brought from possibility to real existence.
 It is the virtue of humility and obedience, and not the formal *elicit* act of meekness; meekness being ordinarily annexed to these virtues. *Flammond's Pract. Catech.*
 The schools dispute whether, in morals, the external action superadds any thing of good or evil to the internal *elicit* act of the will. *South's Sermons.*
ELICITATION. *n. f.* [from *elicio*, Latin.]
 That *elicitation* which the schools intend, is a deducting of the power of the will into act: that drawing which they mention, is merely from the appetibility of the object. *Bramh.*
TO ELIDE. *v. a.* [*elido*, Latin.] To cut in pieces.
 We are to cut off that whereunto they, from whom these

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- objections proceed, fly for defence, when the force and strength of the argument is *elided*. *Hooker, b. iv. f. 4.*
ELIGIBILITY. *n. f.* [from *eligible*.] Worthiness to be chosen.
 The business of the will is not to judge concerning the nature of things, but to chuse them in consequence of the report made by the understanding, as to their *eligibility* or goodness. *Fiddes's Sermons.*
ELIGIBLE. *adj.* [*eligibilis*, Latin.] Fit to be chosen; worthy of choice; preferable.
 A British ministry ought to be satisfied, if, allowing to every particular man that his private scheme is wisest, they can persuade him that next to his own plan, that of the government is the most *eligible*. *Addison's Freeholder, N^o. 48.*
 Did they really think, that going on with the war was more *eligible* for their country than the least abatement of those conditions? *Swift.*
 That the most plain, short, and lawful way to any good end, is more *eligible* than one directly contrary in some or all of these qualities. *Swift.*
 Certainty, in a deep distress, is more *eligible* than suspense. *Clarissa.*
ELIGIBLENESS. *n. f.* [from *eligible*.] Worthiness to be chosen; preferableness.
ELIMINATION. *n. f.* [*elimino*, Latin.] The act of banishing; the act of turning out of doors; rejection. *Dick.*
ELISION. *n. f.* [*eliso*, Latin.]
 1. The act of cutting off: as, *th' attempt*, there is an elision of a syllable.
 You will observe the abbreviations and *elisions*, by which consonants of most obdurate sounds are joined together, without any softening vowel to intervene. *Swift.*
 2. Division; separation of parts.
 The cause given of found, that it would be an *elision* of the air, whereby, if they mean any thing, they mean a cutting or dividing, or else an attenuating of the air, is but a term of ignorance. *Bacon's Natural History, N^o. 124.*
ELIXATION. *n. f.* [*elixus*, Latin.] The act of boiling or stewing any thing.
 Even to ourselves, and more perfect animals, water performs no substantial nutrition; serving for refrigeration, dilution of solid aliment, and its *elixation* in the stomach. *Brown.*
ELIXIR. *n. f.* [Arabic.]
 1. A medicine made by strong infusion, where the ingredients are almost dissolved in the menstruum, and give it a thicker consistence than a tincture. *Quincy.*
 For when no healing art prevail'd,
 When cordials and *elixirs* fail'd,
 On your pale cheek he dropp'd the flow'r,
 Reviv'd you like a dying flow'r. *Waller.*
 2. The liquor, or whatever it be, with which chymists hope to transmute metals to gold.
 No chymist yet the *elixir* got,
 But glorifies his pregnant pot,
 If by the way to him befall
 Some odoriferous thing, or medicinal. *Donne.*
 3. The extract or quintessence of any thing.
 In the soul, when the supreme faculties move regularly, the inferior passions and affections following, there arises a serenity infinitely beyond the highest quintessence and *elixir* of worldly delight. *South's Sermons.*
 4. Any cordial; or invigorating substance.
 What wonder then, if fields and regions here
 Breathe forth *elixir* pure! *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. iii.*
ELK. *n. f.* [*elc*, Saxon.]
 The *elk* is a large and stately animal of the stag kind. The neck is short and slender; the ears nine inches in length, and four in breadth. The colour of its coat in Winter is greyish, in Summer it is paler; generally three inches in length, and equalling horsehair in thickness. The upper lip of the *elk* is large. The articulations of its legs are close, and the ligaments hard, so that its joints are less pliable than those of other animals. The horns of the male *elk* are short and thick near the head, where it by degrees expands into a great breadth, with several prominences in its edges. Elks live in herds, and are very timorous. The hoof of the left hinder foot only, has been famous for the cure of epilepsies; but it is probable, that the hoof of any other animal will do as well. *Hill's Mat. Med.*
 And, scarce his head
 Rais'd o'er the heavy wreath, the branching *elk*
 Lies slumb'ring fullen in the white abyfs. *Thomson's Winter.*
ELL. *n. f.* [*eln*, Saxon.]
 1. A measure containing forty-five inches, or a yard and a quarter.
 They are said to make yearly forty thousand pieces of linen cloth, reckoning two hundred *ells* to the piece. *Addison.*
 2. It is taken proverbially for a long measure.
 Acquit thee bravely, play the man;
 Look not on pleasures as they come, but go;
 Defer not the last virtue; life's poor span
 Make not an *ell* by trifling in thy woe. *Herbert.*
ELLIPSIS.